ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

Fifty-Ninth Annual Session

OF THE

Alabama Baptist Association,

Pine Level Church, Montgomery Co.,

October, 11-14, 1878.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

Pursuant to adjournment last year, a few of the delegates from the churches met at the church at Pine Level, Montgomery county, at 11 o'clock on Friday, October 11, 1878. The inclemency of the weather having prevented the arrival of the Moderator and many other brethren, the Clerk called the delegates present to order, and devotional exercises were held until 1 o'clock. Adjourned to 2½ o'clock.

FRIDAY, 2½ O'Clock.

The Asssociation was called to order by the Moderator. The letters were read and delegates enrolled, as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

Centre Ridge—Not represented.

Town Creek—Not represented (Letter delayed).

Bethany—E. F. BABER.

Sister Springs—J. M. SMOKE.*

Elim (Autauga)—Not represented (Letter delayed).

Pleasant Hill—Not represented.

Cedar Creek—Not represented.

Shiloh—J. M. Lide,* B. D. Crum.*

SECOND DISTRICT.

New Bethel—John F. Lee,* P. Hamilton.*

Benton—Not represented (Letter delayed).

Steep Creek—G. W. MCQUEEN, S. A. Satterwhite, W. P. Bullock.

Hayneville—Not represented.

Bethel—M. BISHOP, R. D. Burt, W. L. Steele.

Mt. Gilead—Not represented (Letter delayed).

Ash Creek—Not represented (Letter delayed).

Hopewell—D. LEE, A. J. Ray, C. A. Gunn.*

Good Hope—Not represented.

THIRD DISTRICT.

Salem—L. L Aiken, G. W. Bayzer, A. B. Brassell.*

Autaugaville—Letter.

First Montgomery—J. B. HAWTHORNE, J. W. Hale, Thomas H. Watts, J. B. Gay.*

Adams Street, Montgomery—Not represented.

Liberty—ROBERT BLAN, T. W. Barnett, G. W. Crossgrove.

Union—J. A. Stringer, T. E. MORGAN,* J. E. KOLB,* J. T. DAVIDSON.*

Mt. Lebanon—J. W. ORME, J. G. Jones, F. M. Sullivan.

Pine Level—E. J. Harris, J. H. Dickson, G. G. Miles.

Unity—Not represented.

Elim (Montgomery)—W. G. Worrell, W. T. McGaugh,* W. R. Taylor.*

Ramah—B. A. JACKSON, J. L. SAMPEY, J. D. Garrard.

FOURTH DISTRICT.

Greenville—B. H. CRUMPTON, John Gamble, T. C. Watts, I. L. TAYLOR, Thomas Boyet, jr.

Philadelphia—G. T. Edwards, W. M. Thrower.

Antioch—A. Whittle.

Damascus—W. C. AVANT,* T. E. Harrison.

Hickory Grove—J. P. Cross, W. P. McQueen.

Macedonia—F. E. May,* T. F. Peterson,* W. C. Conway.*

New Ebenezer—J. K. Polk, John Polk, Geo. Schofield.*

Bethesda—C. Stevens,* J. T. Boyd, V. Nobles.*

(Ordained Ministers in SMALL CAPITALS; Absentees *)

On motion, Bro. Gamble was instructed to cast the vote of the Association for the re-election of the present officers, viz., Eld. D. Lee, Moderator; Eld. E. F. Baber, Clerk; T. C. Watts, Treasurer.

The following committees were appointed, to report during the session:

On Religious Exercises—J. P. Cross, G. W. Bayzer, and the Deacons of Pine Level church.

On Documents—G. W. McQueen, J. G. Jones, W. G. Worrell, J. A. Stringer, T. E. Harrison.

On the State of Religion in the Churches—M. Bishop, I. L. Taylor, L. L. Aiken, J. K. Polk, G. W. Crossgrove.

On Finance—E. J. Harris, W. P. McQueen, J. W. Hale.

On motion, it was decided to postpone the Introductory Sermon until night. [The sermon was delivered by Eld. M. Bishop, the appointee ; text, Matt. vi. 13, "For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory."]

On motion, a special committee on State Missions, to report to this session, was appointed, as follows: E. F. Baber, B. H. Crumpton, J. B. Hawthorne, J. L. Sampey, John Gamble.

On calling for Correspondence from other bodies, the following brethren were announced as being present, and were invited to seats with us :

From the Central Association—Eld. J. M. Johnson.

From the Centennial Association—W. O'Neal, A. Barnett, Jas. Leake, W. L. Lewis.

From the Salem Association—Eld. J. M.Green,Eld. J. T. Cumbie, J. A. Dennis, Eld. J. J. Macon.

From the Bethlehem Association—Eld. J. M. Fortune.

Ladies' Aid Society, Bethel Church—Eld. J. M. Fortune.

State Mission Board—Eld. T. M. Bailey, Cor. Sec.

State Board of Education—J. B. Hawthorne, Pres't.

On motion of Eld. Crumpton,a standing committee on Education was appointed, to report next year. The following brethren compose the committee : B. H. Crumpton, B. A. Jackson, J. B. Hawthorne, J. W. Orme, John Gamble.

On motion of Eld. Sampey, it was ordered that the regular order be suspended at 10 a. m. to-morrow, to allow Eld. Hawthorne to speak on Ministerial Education.

Adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

SATURDAY MORNING, Oct. 12.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. Crumpton.

A communication was received from the Colored Baptist Union Association, offering Christian salutation, and asking counsel of this body. On motion of Eld. Hawthorne, the Clerk was instructed to write a response on behalf of this Association. On motion of Eld. Crumpton, a committee was appointed to visit the Colored Association, return their christian greeting, and aid them in such way as may be desired. The committee consists of Elds. Baber, Crumpton and Taylor.

The committee on Religious Exercises reported as follows:

Baptist Church,—To-night, sermon by Eld. J. B. Hawthorne. To-morrow (Sunday) morning, 9 o'clock, Sabbath School; addresses by Elds. T. M. Bailey and J. B. Hawthorne. At 11 o'clock, sermon by Eld. B. H. Crumpton. At 2 p. m., sermon by Eld. Hawthorne. At night, sermon by Eld. G. W. McQueen.

Methodist Church.—To-morrow, 11 o'clock, sermon by Eld. T. M. Baily.

Auditing Committee was appointed, viz: J. D. Garrard, G. G. Miles.

The hour of 10 having arrived, the regular business was suspended and Eld. Hawthorne addressed the Association on the subject of Ministerial Education, making special mention of Bro. E. C. Plum, now at Howard College. A collection was taken up amount ing to $46.90 in cash, and a pledge of $25, by Eld. Hawthorne.

Correspondence was returned, as follows:

To Pine Barren Association—Elds. Crumpton, Hawthorne and Jackson.

To Bethlehem Association—T. C. Watts, John Gamble, and Elds. Crumpton, Hawthorne, Taylor, McQueen and Lee.

To Salem Association—Elds. Orme, Jackson, Sampey, Blan, and Bro. Garrard.

To Centennial Association—Elds. Sampey, Orme, Blan, and Bros. Harris, Garrard and G. G. Miles.

To Tuskegee Association—Eld. Hawthorne, J. R. McLendon.

To Central Association—J. W. Hale.

To Unity Association—O. W. Sherrer, A. L. Haralson, E. F. Baber, L. L. Aiken.

To Cahaba Association—E. F. Baber, R, McPheeters.

To Baptist State Convention—Elds. Sampey, Jackson, Orme, Blan, Taylor, and Bros. J. H. Dickson, S. Guice, G. G. Miles and J. P. Cross.

The following brethren were appointed a Committee on Missions, to report next year: J. W. Orme, Robt. Blan, J. D. Garrard, A. J. Ray.

The following brethren were appointed a committee to report next year on the work of the State Mission Board: J. B. Hawthorne, B. A. Jackson, John Gamble, W. P. Bullock, M. Bishop.

The report of the Executive Board of the Association was read and adopted:

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE BOARD.

The Executive Board of the Association respectfully report :

In the absence of our chairman, we are almost at a loss to know what to report and we must confess that from some cause, our chairman has failed to call the Board together during the year, and therefore, we have not discharged our duties as we should have done. But we sincerely hope and trust that in the future we will be more zealous in the discharge of the great and urgent work devolving upon us.

As there have been no collections taken the past associational year for associational purposes at the various churches within our bounds, and as we cannot do anything towards sending the Gospel to the destitute places within the associational limits without money, we would respectfully suggest that collections be taken up at the various churches of our Association at the first regular meeting during the month of December.

Your Board are glad to report that the extent of the religious destitution within our bounds has very much diminished, and that those churches that have received help from your Board have gratefully accepted it, and much good has resulted from this small assistance.

T. C. WATTS,
S. A. SATTERWHITE.

The committee on the Work of the State Mission Board presented their report. T. M. Bailey, Cor. Sec. of State Board, addressed the body, and took up a collection of $75.50 in pledges and $16.30 cash to support the work within our bounds. Pledges: Hopewell (D. Lee,) $10; Salem $5; Mt. Lebanon, (J. W. Orme,) $10; Pine Level $20; Ramah $10.50; Philadelphia $5; Robt. Blan $5; J. A. Stringer $5; J. G. Jones $5. Adjourned till 2 p. m.

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2 O'CLOCK, P. M.

Discussion of the report of the committee on State Mission work was continued by Bro. T. H. Watts. The report was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMIIEE ON THE WORK OF THE STATE MISSION BOARD.

Your committee on State Missions beg leave to submit the following report:

The plan of the work now pursued by the State Mission Board has been in operation about one year, and we think it not extravagant to say that no work ever undertaken by the followers of Jesus has assumed such proportions and exhibited such results in so short a time. The object is to evangelize the State—to have faithful ministers preaching a pure gospel in every nook and corner where there are

human minds to be instructed and immortal souls to be saved. And although the work is yet in its infancy, and therefore, as to length of time, might ordinarily be regarded as an experiment, yet it appears to be looked upon as a fixed and growing fact with the Baptists of Alabama. Still it is but right to remember that the work is but just begun, and is entitled to the same fair test as to time and results that is accorded by prudent patience to any other enterprise or undertaking. We think it a fact worthy of emphatic mention in this connection, that not one Association that entered into co-operation with the State Mission Board last year has declined to do it again this year- but so far from this, others are joining in the good work This clear; ly indicates that those who have tried it are satisfied, and those who have seen it are pleased.

The fear of making this report too lengthy constrains us to be brief, when we might justly say more. But we would add, that the work of the State Mission Board is unifying the Baptists of Alabama as no other agency has ever done before. We need to be united still more. The gospel must be preached more, and more churches persuaded to meet every Lord's day for prayer and the study of God's word. It is a grand work, and glorious. Let the Alabama Association do its share of the work, and receive its share of blessing. Let us be *one* with our brethren of other Associations. Let us continue to march in line with the grand army of Christ's followers who are moving forward in solid phalanx throughout the greater part of Alabama. We recommend that the Association continue to co-operate with the State Mission Board, and that the Board be commended to the churches and brethren for their prayers and contributions.

For information, and as a sufficient argument, we beg to submit the following statement:

Summary of work done by missionaries of the State Mission Board from their entrance on the work until the meeting of the State Convention in July; none of them having been in the field more than nine months, and most of them but six months:

Weeks of labor 282; sermons delivered 1178; addresses 257; subs. to Ala. Baptist secured 423; miles traveled 17,502; Sabbath Schools organized 77; baptisms 17; baptisms in connection with their labors 13; received by letter into churches without pastors 8; restored in churches without pastors 2; Ladies' Missionary Societies organized 6; prayer meetings organized 4; churches constituted 1; churches visited 770; deacons assisted in ordaining 6; ministers assisted in ordaining 2; churches in fields of labor occupied by our missionaries meeting every Lord's day, 191.

The Board is now operating in 33 Associations, and in a few weeks will be operating in 41. Thus far, but one Association in the State has refused to co-operate with the Board, and liberal contributions have been received from that one. Eight brethren, with the Corres ponding Secretary, are now in the field, one is under appointment, and two more will soon be appointed.

Elder E. F. Baber, the Evangelist of the State Board laboring within our bounds, has laid his report before us, and it is herewith submitted.

REPORT OF EVANGELIST OF STATE MISSION BOARD FOR ALABAMA ASSOCIATION.

Sermons preached 63; addresses delivered 3; number of persons received and baptized into churches without pastors 6; Sabbath schools organized 3; churches re-organized 1; ministers assisted in ordaining 1; deacons assisted in ordaining 2; time labored 11 weeks, 3 days; miles traveled on duty 543.

I have visited nearly all the churches in the Association. The work being new, it was necessary to visit the churches and explain it to them, so they might understandingly co-operate with it, if they thought proper to do so. They have generally shown their approval by liberal material support. If the work should be continued in your bounds, of course more time could hereafter be devoted to the destitution and to the weak churches. But it is neecssary to strengthen the things that remain, as well as to build up new churches. Attention has been paid to the destitution as far as practicable.

I can report only the visible results of my labors; the invisible (which may be the greater) will be known to us only in the great day of revelation.

It may not be out of place for me to say that the very small number of young men within your bounds who have entered, or contemplate entering, the ministry, impresses me as being a matter that should excite our deepest concern. Who will take our places when "life's fitful fever is over," and our work is ended? There is great need for us to pray the Lord of the harvest that he will send more laborers into his vineyard.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

E. F. BABER, for Committee.

Eld. McQueen presented the report of the Committee on Documents, which was adopted.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON DOCUMENTS.

Your committee on Documents beg leave to report:

That Macedonia church has partly built a house of worship, and earnestly solicits aid to complete it. She also reports the death of Deacon F. L. Ellis.

Elim church (Montgomery county) reports the death of Deacon Moses McLemore.

Hopewell church reports the death of Deacon R. H. Lee.

Greenville church reports two flourishing literary schools, (a Male and a Female,) under its auspices.

Eleven churches vote in favor of the proposed change in the constitution, so as to allow an additional delegate to the Association for

every twenty-five members above the first hundred; three churches vote against it, and seven churches do not vote on the subject.

Bethany church, of the first district, invites the next meeting of the Association to be held with her. She also reports the death of Deacon Thomas W. Dunklin.

Respectfully submitted, G. W. McQUEEN, Chm'n.

The Moderator announced that the amendment to the constitution, mentioned in the foregoing report, had been adopted. So that hereafter each church will be entitled to one delegate for every twenty-five members after the first hundred, instead of one delegate to every fifty members after the first hundred, as heretofore.

Eld. Bishop, from the committee appointed last session to present the Bible plan of Giving, made his report.

Eld. Crumpton, from same committee, offered a substitute.

On motion of Eld. Hawthorne, both reports were laid on the table.

Eld. Bishop, from Committee on the State of Religion in the Churches, presented his report, which was adopted.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION IN THE CHURCHES.

The committee on the State of Religion in the Churches report:

That many of our churches are not represented, and their condition is not known by us. Only seven of the churches represented bring the cheering news of an increase of seventy members, while the remainder show a decrease in numbers. Eleven Sabbath schools with 496 members, are only mentioned in the letters. A few say, "We have much to be thankful for;" others say, "We are cold; brethren, pray for us." It is evident the majority of the churches are living—only living—while a few have life, and have it abundantly. Altogether, there is not much prosperity to rejoice over, but much inactivity to lament. When will Zion arise and shine as the morning light? Only when she is active in keeping house for her Lord, and makes the grand discovery of grace in His eyes; for it is the Love of God that constrains us to love, labor and suffer for Him who has done so much for us.

M. BISHOP, Chairman.

A Committee on Obituaries was appointed, consisting of Elds. B. A. Jackson and J. W. Orme, and Bro. W. P. Bullock.

The invitation of Bethany church, Lowndes county, for the next session of the Association, was accepted.

The committee on Religious Exercises for this session was requested to make the appointments for preaching at our next session.

The Treasurer submitted his report, which was read and referred to the Auditing Committee.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

THADDEUS C. WATTS, Treasurer, *In account with the Alabama Baptist Association.*

1877–78: DR.

To Bal. on hand from last report	$ 94.16
" Cash received for Minute Fund	59.10
" " " " Indian Missions	108.62
" " " " Foreign Missions	190.82
" " " " Educational Board	157.07
" " " " State Mission Board	148.50
" " " " S. B. Theological Seminary	57.00
" " " " Gen'l Associational purposes	79.45
	$894.72

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By Cash paid Clerk for Minutes	$ 59.10
" " " W. H. McIntosh and others, Indian Missions.	108.62
" " " H. A. Tupper and others, Foreign Missions.	190.82
" " " B. B. Davis and others, Educational Board.	163.37
" " " M. T. Sumner, S. B. T. Seminary	57.00
" " " Jno. W. Orme and others, Gen'l Ass. purposes.	91.90
" " " T. M. Bailey and others, State Mission Board.	148.50
" Balance on hand	75.41
	$894.72

Respectfully submitted. THADAEUS C. WATTS, Treas'r.

Examined and found correct. J. D. GARRARD,
G. G. MILES, Auditing Committee.

On motion of Eld. Crumpton, it was ordered that an over-payment of $6.30 made by Bro. Watts, Treasurer, at last Association, be refunded. (Subsequently it was specified that the money should be refunded from the "balance on hand" reported by the Treasurer.)

Adjourned to 9 o'clock Monday morning.

On Sabbath the Missionary sermon was preached by Eld. Crumpton to a large congregation, from Isaiah lx:1. After which a collection of $37.40 was taken up.

MONDAY MORNING, Oct. 14.

Met pursuant to adjournment. Prayer by Eld. J. M. Johnson.

Eld. Hawthorne presented a report on Missions, and addressed the Association on that subject. He was followed by Elds. Orme and Crumpton, and Bro J. G. Jones and others. The report was adopted.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

Never in the history of our blessed religion have the disciples of the Lord Jesus had such opportunities for the evangelization of the world as are now afforded. Every nation of the earth has opened its doors to the Gospel. Within the last year great progress has been made in the conversion of the heathen to God. Under the ministry of a single Baptist Missionary, more than eight thousand idolaters

have renounced their false gods and declared their allegiance to Jesus Christ.

Our Italian missions are in a very hopeful condition. In sight of the Vatican will soon be erected an imposing house of worship, in which Dr. George B. Taylor and his assistants will proclaim a pure Gospel.

The interests of our mission cause, both at home and abroad, call for renewed exertions and greater sacrifice on the part of those to whom is committed the divine commission, "Go ye into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature."

J. B. HAWTHORNE, Chm'n.

Eld. Crumpton presented a report on Sabbath Schools. Remarks were made by Bros. Dickson, Sampey, Jones, Johnson and others. Report adopted.

REPORT ON SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Your committee are of the opinion that this is a subject demanding the attention of this body, and will, until the pernicious influences of the enemies of Sabbath Schools have died away. The Baptist churches, to a large extent, are in an abnormal condition upon this subject. There were evidently *teachers* in the Apostolic churches, as well as *pastors*. This, of course, implies disciples, or learners. The general time for the meeting was the first day of the week, and hence they may be termed Sabbath Schools. But as nothing but results will ever effectually destroy opposition to a useful measure, we will only give a summary of a Scriptural Sabbath School, and await developments to convince gainsayers.

1st. The Text-Book—The Bible.

For a thorough instruction, of course any and all helps may and ought to be used, which will throw light upon the word of God.

2d. The Teachers—Members of the church, and such as exhibit more or less qualification for imparting knowledge. This qualification should be spiritual and mental. There may be some extreme cases where all the teachers can not be found in the churches; then, better any moral and upright person than none.

3d. The Pupils—The *entire church*, with their children, friends and neighbors—as many as can be *induced* to join.

4th. The Character of the School—Denominational and evergreen, if possible. The e may be cases where a denominational school is impossible; then, better union than none.

5th. Officers—Superintendent and Treasurer. The Superintendent should be an earnest and practical man, not slow nor lengthy. The Treasurer must be honest and dilligent.

6th. Teacher's Meetings—Once a week, regularly. It is by these meetings teachers become thoroughly competent.

Respectfully submitted. B. H. CRUMPTON, Chm'n.

As an amendment to the foregoing report, Bro. Dickson moved

that a committee of four be appointed by the Moderator—one for each district of the Association—to work for the Sabbath School cause in their respective districts, and to report at our next session. The said committee being granted the privilege of working for all the interests fostered by the Association. The motion was adopted, and the following brethren were appointed:

1st District—D. B. Edwards. 2d—R. M. Burt. 3d—J. H. Dickson. 4th.—J. M. Thigpen.

The committee to arrange for preaching at our next meeting reported as follows:

Introductory Sermon, Eld. B. H. Crumpton; alternate, G. W. McQueen; Missionary Sermon, Eld. D. Lee; alternate, J.W.Orme.

Elds. McQueen and Orme, from the Historical Committee, made reports, which were adopted:

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE ON HISTORY OF THE CHURCHES.

Your Committee to whom was transmitted the historical data already prepared, with instructions to pursue the work to completing beg leave to report, that your committee-man from the 1st Distrion, is not present, and we have no knowledge of what he has accomplished. In the 2d and 3d Districts the history of all except one churct, in each district has been procured. In the 4th District nothich has been done. Respectfully submitted,

G. W. McQUEEN.

Your Committee beg leave to report as follows:

In our endeavor to get up the history of the churches of the 3d District, we find much of the early history misplaced or destroyed, and hence are compelled t omit much that would doubtless prove of interest to the denomination.

We submit as a history of the 1st Baptist Church of Montgomery, and the Adams St. Church of that city, a pamphlet entitled "The Churches of the City of Montgomery." On page 29 may be found the history of the 1st Church, and on page 48, the history of the Adams St. Baptist Church.

In reviewing the history of the churches of the 3d District, we find the most of them to have passed through heavy trials, yet several of them, which at times seemed almost extinct, are to-day healthy and flourishing. This should encourage us, my brethren, and cause us to remember the word of the Lord: "Behold I, even I, will search my sheep and seek them out. As a shepherd seeketh out his flock in the day that he is among his sheep that are scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and will deliver them out of all places where they have been scattered in the cloudy and the dark day."

With a few of these churches it is even now a cloudy and a dark day. But let us not be discouraged. The Lord has led out some

that seemed to be altogether scattered amid clouds and darkness, and they stand to day as monuments of his truth, that he will search out his true sheep.

Your Committee would recommend that in the future, churches be more vigilant in preserving their history, which will be in time to come of great value to our denomination.

Respectfully submitted. JOHN W. ORME.

And it was ordered that the data submitted by Elds. McQueen and Orme be placed in the hands of the Clerk, to await the order of the Association.

Eld. Jackson, from the Committee on Obituaries, made a report, which was adopted:

REPORT ON OBITUARIES.

Your Committee beg leave to present the following report:

Since the last session of this body, four of the faithful workers in the Master's cause—Deacons R. H. Lee, Thomas W. Dunklin, F.L. Ellis, and Moses McLemore—have left our ranks for a purer clime. They have finished the work assigned them to do on earth, and their light spirits have taken "homeward flight" to the land of rest. These all died in the faith, as they had lived, and having "used the office of a Deacon well," have "purchased to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus." "Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord, yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors."

Resolved, 1st. That we bow in humble submission to this dispensation of God's providence; recognizing the hand of God, of whom the question is asked, Will not the Judge of all the earth do right?

Resolved, 2d. That we tender our heartfelt sympathies to the families of our lamented brethren, praying that the smiles of Heaven may settle on them.

Respectfully submitted. B. A. JACKSON, Chm'n.

Eld. Crumpton offered the following resolutions, which were adopted:

RESOLUTIONS IN REGARD TO THE COLORED PEOPLE.

Resolved, That we feel and recognize the claims of the colored people of this country upon the sympathies and attention of the white Baptists.

Resolved, That we hail with delight their willingness and solicitude for superior instruction, and regard it as the pointing of the finger of Providence in this direction.

Resolved, That in the estimation of this Association, it is time for the State Board to take this subject in hand, and as soon as practicable appoint missionaries for this work.

Resolved, That the pastors be requested to preach to this people

as often as possible, and the brethren to aid in instructing them and their preachers as far as practicable.

The Clerk was instructed to make such additions to the report of the Finance Committee as would be necessary to show what the churches had paid to the State Mission Board; and also such additions as might be authorized by the letters from certain churches in the First District, which were known to be delayed on the way to this body; and to insert the statistics given in said letters.

[NOTE.—The Clerk deems it proper to say, that if the letters above alluded to had been received, the report on the State of Religion would have been more favorable; and that on Documents would have been affected in some important particulars.]

Eld. Sampey offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the thanks of this body be extended to the members of Pine Level church, and the citizens of this community, for their hospitality; and to the members of the Methodist church for the use of their house of worship.

On motion, it was ordered that the brethren heretofore appointed to labor in the interest of Sabbath Schools in their respective districts be constituted a Committee on Sabbath Schools, with Eld. J. L. Sampey as chairman, and to report at the next meeting of this body.

Eld. Orme offered the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That this Association endorse the action of the State Convention in the disposition of the Alabama Baptist, and recommend to the churches that they sympathize and co-operate with Bro. West in his endeavors to promote the interests of the paper.

Remarks were made by the Moderator and Eld. Sampey, and a number of subscribers to the paper procured.

On motion of Eld. Crumpton, the Sabbath collection was divided equally between the State, Home, and Foreign Mission Boards.

The Clerk was instructed to communicate with churches not represented in regard to contributing for minutes; to retain $20.00 for his services in preparing and superintending the printing of the Minutes, and have as many copies printed as the money remaining will procure.

The Executive Board of the Association was continued, Bro. D. B. Edwards being appointed to take the place of Bro. R. H. Lee, deceased.

Then, after giving the parting hand, and prayer by the Moderator, the Association adjourned to meet with Bethany church, Collirene, Lowndes county, on Friday before the 2nd Sunday in October, 1879.

D. LEE, Moderator.

E. F. BABER, Clerk.

RULES OF ORDER FOR CONDUCTING BUSINESS IN THE ALABAMA BAPTIST ASSOCIATION.

1. At every annual meeting of this Association, immediately after the delegates' names are enrolled, tellers shall be appointed by the Chair, and the Association shall proceed to choose from among their number a Moderotor, Clerk and Treasurer, who shall hold their offices until new ones are chosen.

2. The Moderator shall take the Chair every day, at the hour to which the Association shall have adjourned on the preceding day; shall immediately call the members to order, and on the appearance of a quorum, shall cause the Minutes of the preceding day to be read.

3. He shall preserve order and decorum; may speak to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose; and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Association by any two members, on which appeal no member shall speak more than once, unless by leave of the Association.

4. He shall rise to put a question, but may state it sitting.

5. Questions shall be distinctly put; those voting in the affirmative shall say aye, and those of a contrary opinion shall say no. If the Moderator doubts, or a division is called for, the delegates shall divide; those in the affirmative of the question shall first rise from their seats, and afterwards those in the negative.

6. The Moderator shall appoint all committees, unless otherwise specially directed by the Association.

7. In all cases of election the Moderator may vote; in other cases he shall not vote, unless the body be equally divided; in that event he shall give the casting vote. He may speak to any question, provided he call some other member to occupy the Chair while he is speaking.

8. The Clerk shall enroll the names of the delegates; minute the proceedings of the body, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

9. The Treasurer shall receive, account for, and pay out all moneys belonging to this body, according to the instructions of the Association, and perform such other duties as the Association may direct.

DECORUM IN DEBATE.

10. When any member is about to speak, or deliver nay matter to the Association, he shall rise from his seat, and shall respectfully address the Moderator, and shall confine himself to the question under debate, and avoid personalities.

11. If any member in speaking, or otherwise, transgress the rules of the Association, the Moderator shall, or any member may, call him to order; in which case the member so called to order shall immediately sit down, unless permitted to explain; and the Association shall, if appealed to, decide on the case, but without debate. If there be no appeal, the decision of the Chair shall be submitted to; if the decision be in favor of the member called to order, he shall be at liberty to proceed; if otherwise, he shall not be permitted to proceed in case any member objects, without leave of the Association.

12. When two or more members happen to rise at once, the Moderator shall name the member who is first to speak.

13. No member shall speak more than once to the same question, without leave of the Association, unless he be the mover, proposer or introducer of the matter pending; in which case he shall be permitted to speak in reply, but not until every member choosing to speak shall have spoken.

14. Every member who shall be in the house, when a question is put, shall give his vote, unless the Association, for special reason, excuse him.

15. When a motion is made and seconded, it shall be stated by the Chair, or being in writing, it shall be handed to the Moderator, and read aloud before debated.

16. Every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the Chair or any member desire it.

17. After a motion is stated by the Chair, or read aloud by the Clerk, it shall be deemed to be in possession of the body, but may be withdrawn by leave of the Association at any time before a decision or amendment.

18. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be entertained but to adjourn, to lay on the table, for the previous question, to postpone to a day certain, to commit or amend, to postpone indefinitely—which several motions shall have precedence in the order in which they are arranged; and no motion to postpone to a day certain, to commit, or to postpone indefinitely being decided, shall again be allowed during the session.

19. A motion to adjourn shall be always in order, except the Association be engaged in voting.

20. A motion to lay on the table shall be taken without debate, and shall always be in order, except a member be speaking, or the body be engaged in voting.

21. On a previous question there shall be no debate. All incidental questions of order arising after a motion is made for the previous question, and pending such motion, shall be decided, whether on appeal or otherwise, without debate.

22. The previous question shall be in this form: "Shall the main question be now put?" It shall only be admitted when demanded by a majority of the members present; its effect shall be to put an end to all debate, and bring the Association to a direct vote upon amendments, reported by committee, if any; upon pending amendments, and then upon the main question.

23. No motion or proposition on a subject different from that under consideration shall be admitted under color of amendment.

24. When a motion has been once made and carried in the affirmative or negative, it shall be in order for any member of the majority to move a reconsideration thereof, on the same or succeeding business day, and such motion shall take precedence of all other questions, except a motion to adjourn.

25. No member shall absent himself from the house without leave of the Moderator, nor leave the meeting without leave of the Association.

26. Should any member of this Association absent himself before the close of the session without permission from the body, he shall be marked in the Minutes as absent without leave.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

CHURCHES.	Minutes	Home Missions	Foreign Missions.	Ministerial Education.	State Miss'ns	Redeem Pledges to State Miss	Associational Purposes.	So. Baptist Theo. Sem	Redeem Pl'g for Elim Ch.	Totals
Town Creek	$ 1 65					14 50				$16 15
Bethany	1 50					4 00				5 50
Sister Springs	1 00					4 15				5 15
Ash Creek	75					10 00				10 75
Mt. Gilead	1 50									1 50
Benton	1 50									1 50
Elim (Autauga)	1 00				1 00					2 00
Steep Creek	2 55	5 90	2 00			5 00				15 45
Ramah	3 00	2 00	1 00	2 00	10 50					18 50
Bethesda	1 50				21 00					22 50
Shiloh	1 00									1 00
Salem	3 00					5 00	6 50			14 55
1st. Montgomery	5 00	50 00	100 00	25 00	100 00			100 00		380 00
Elim (Montg'y)	1 50				4 00					5 50
Bethel	4 00	8 00	11 75	30 00	12 75	5 00				71 00
Unity					5 00					6 00
Greenville	5 00	2 50	14 85	2 00		50 00				74 35
New Ebenezer	2 00									2 00
Hickory Grove	1 50				9 50		6 50			17 50
Macedonia	1 00				1 00	3 00				5 00
Antioch	2 00									2 00
Liberty	2 00	4 50			2 50					9 00
Philadelphia	1 00									1 00
Mt. Lebanon	1 75				17 95					19 70
Union	2 50				2 60					5 10
Damascus	2 45					2 80				5 25
New Bethel	1 50		50		3 25					6 25
Hopewell	3 10			23 25						26 35
Pine Level	2 15				20 00					22 15
Autaugaville	50				1 00					1 50
Miss Lou Ward									2 00	2 00
Mrs. L. A. Bullock									50	50
W. P. McQueen						1 00				1 00
A. B. Brassell				2 00						2 00
L. Evans				1 00						1 00
Ladies' Ben. So. Bethany			2 10		5 50					7 60
Ladies' Ben. So. Montg'y					10 00					10 00
Ladies' Ben. So. Town Ck.			5 10			25 00	9 60			39 70
Total Cash and Vouchers	$58 95	72 90	138 30	85 25	228 55	129 45	22 60	100 00	2 50	838 45

Contributions Saturday for State Miss. Board, $16 30 General Collection on Sabb th, $39 40, which was divided equally between the Mission Boards.

The above sum for "Ministerial Education" is for E. C. Plum, at Howard College. Greenville Church contributes, in addition, $22 50 for Ministerial Education at School in their town (Greenville.)

The children of Pine Level Sabbath School contributed $1 35 for S. S. purposes.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

CHURCHES.	PASTORS.	CLERKS.	CLERK'S POST OFFICE	County.	Baptized.	Rec'd by Letter.	Rec'd by Vouch	Restored.	Dismissed by Letter.	Abs't with't Let.	Deceased.	Excluded.	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.	Ladies' Ben. Soci.	Prayer Meetings.	Young Mens' Prayer Meetings	Sabbath Schools.	Teachers.	Scholars.	Teachers' Meet'g.	Sabbath Meetings.	Ministers, Licensed or Ordained.
FIRST DISTRICT.																								
*Centre Ridge	E. J. Forrester	J. W. Dennis	Richmond	D									75			1	w		w	5	21		2 &4	
Town Creek	Rob't McPheeters.	D. B Edwards.	Benton	D	2			2	9				59	7		1	w		w	5	22		1	
Bethany	"	H. W. Hardy	"	L	12	2	1		3		5		60	7		1			w	4	40		2	
Sister Springs	J. M. Smoke	Jared Carter	"	D					1		2		17		3								3	
*Pleasant Hill	E. J. Forrester	J. W. Smyley	Pleasant Hill	D									58				w		w	5	25		4	
Shiloh		B. D. Crum	Selma	D					3			2	18		5				w	4	40			
*Cedar Creek	J. F. Bruner	Ithiel Ingram	Farmersville	L									45										2	
SECOND DISTRIC .																								
Hopewell	D. Lee	G. W. Coker	Mt. Willing	L	6	1			2		2	2	113	1									1 &2	
Ash Creek	R. McPheeters	B. F. Caffey	Gordonsville	L					2		2	3	26		7				w	3			4	
*Hayneville	"	A. Varner	Hayneville	L									33										3	
Steep Creek	G. W. McQueen	J. W. Thomas	Morganville	L	6	1		3	2		2	3	64	3					w	2	10		1&4	
Bethel	J. M. Fortune	R. M Burt	Fort Deposit	L	7	8			7			1	152	7		1	w		w	4	75		1&3	
*Good Hope		J. C. Abbott	Greenville	B									39						w	5	30		2	
Mt. Gilead	R. McPheeters	Jas. Bryant	Benton	L	9	3			2	3	1		35	7		1			w	3	22		3	OR. 1
New Bethel	J. F. Bruner	W. W. Pruitt	Bragg's Store	L	4	4			3				36	5									1	
Benton	R. McPheeters	J. C. Hill	Benton	L	1	8			1			2	18	6									1&5	
†Elim (Autauga)		C. H. Morgan	Benton	A		1					1		5						w	1	14			
THIRD DISTRICT.																								
Salem	J. W. Orme	Jos. Aikins	Montgomery	M					4			3	28		7				w	2	10		2	
Autaugaville		O. W. Sherrer	Autaugaville	A					1		2		8		3									
1st Montgomery	J. B. Hawthorne	W.P.Vanderver	Montgomery	M	45	28	4		26		7	1	439	43		1	w	w	w	24	226	w	w	0.1L.1
*Adams St., Montg		J. M. Falkner	"	M									56						w	4	40		w	
Liberty	J. W. Orme	F. M. Nuckolls	Pine Level	M	3	6		6	4			7	50	4					w	5	30		1	
Union	W. C. Avant	J. A Stringer	Honoroville	C	7	5			6		1		83	5									4	
Mt. Lebanon	J. W. Orme	W. F. Niblett	Ramer	M	5	1		1	5		3	4	59		5				w	2	20		4	
Pine Level	B. A. Jackson	I. A. Frazier	Pine Level	M		3			6		1		56		4				w	8	79		4	
*Unity	H. C Taul	J. H. Booth	Prattville	A									51						w	8	60		4	
Elim (Montg'y)	J. M. Johnson	W. T. McGaugh	Montgomery	M	2	1					1		15	2									3	
Ramah	B. A. Jackson	A. L Guice	Ramer	M		8			6	4	1	1	82						w	2	15		2	
FOURTH DISTRICT.																								
Greenville	B. H. Crumpton	J. A. Harris	Greenville	B	32	12			9		4		181	31		1	w		w	15	135	w	2&4	
Philadelphia	B. A. Jackson	G. T. Edwards	Arcadia	C	2	1					2		34	7									1	
Antioch	M. Bishop	J. P. Gafford	Greenville	B	2			1	6		2	2	57		7								1	
Damascus	"	S. F. Andress	"	B	11	1	3		2				91	13									3	
Hickory Grove	B. A. Jackson	Asa Dean	Mt. Carmel	M		3			3				33						s	5	70		3	
Macedonia	A. F. Goldsmith	F. E. May	Fort Deposit	L	1	3					2		28	2									2	
New Ebenezer	T. E. Morgan	Jeff. Cook	Saville	C									48										2	
Bethesda	J. W. Orme	J. T. Boyd	Ramer	M	1	1			1				42	7					w	3	35		3	
					158	111	8	13	113	7	41	31	2299	145	41					119	1019			0.2L.1

*Not having sent Letters, the Clerk was governed by last report. †This Church has been dropped from the reports for sometime, but has been re-organized.

Order of Business.

1. Introductory Sermon.
2. Appoint Committee on Credentials.
3. Recess.
4. Organization.
5. Admission of New Churches.
6. Correspondence.
7. Appoint Committees.
8. Report of Executive Board.
9. Report of Committees.
10. Treasurer's Report.
11. Appoint time and place of meeting.
12. Miscellaneous.

The Alabama Baptist,

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